

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, PGOV, PINT, AR

SUBJECT: CALABRO'S STATEMENTS EXACERBATE SPLIT IN PERONIST MOVEMENT

1. IN SEPTEMBER 30 LUNCHEON WITH FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS,BA

GOVERNOR AND METAL WORKERS UNION (UOM) TREASURER CALABRO HARSHLY CRITICIZED CONDUCT OF GOA DURING PAST SEVERAL MONTHS AND OPINED THAT WITHOUT STRONG AND EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP, CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT SURVIVE UNTIL PROGRAMMED 1977 ELECTIONS. PREDICTABLY, THOSE STATEMENTS CREATED PUBLIC FUROR.

2. ANTI-VERTICALIST PERONISTS AND MAJORITY OPPOSTION LEADERS COMMENTED THAT CALABRO HAD DONE NO MORE THAN SPEAK THE TRUTH. THE VERTICALIST PERONIST SECTRO UNANIMOUSLY ATTACKED HIS STATEMENTS AS IMPRUDENT AND DISUNIFYING. JUSTICIALIST PARTY SECOND VICE PRESIDENT BAEZ ADVISED PRESS THAT INCIDENT WOULD BE CONSIDERED BY PARTY LEADERSHIP DURING OCTOBER 2 MEETING. MININTERIOR AND PARTY FIRST VICE PRESIDENT ROBLEDO DECLINED TO COMMENT ON CALABRO'S CRITICISMS, NOTING ONLY THAT PUBLIC OPINION WOULD HAVE TO JUDGE HIM.

3. REACTION FROM CALABRO'S OWN UNION, CONTROLLED BY STAUNCH VERTICALIST LORENZO MIGUEL, WAS RAPID AND HIGHLY NEGATIVE. IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DECLARATION PUBLISHED OCTOBER 2 PESS UOM STATED CALABRO'S

VIEWS WERE PERSONAL AND IN NO WAY REFLECTED UOM THINKING. AFTER CONTRASTING CALABRO'S POSITION WITH UOM'S POLICY OF "DISCIPLINE AND VERTICALITY", IT COMMENTED THAT CALABRO'S STATEMENT "PREDICTING THE RUPTURE OF INSTITUTIONAL ORDER" SERVED TO ENCOURAGE SUCH AN ACTION.

4. COMMENT. CALABRO OBVIOUSLY TOOK CALCULATED RISK TO FURTHER HIS OWN PRESIDENTIAL AMBITIONS. ALTHOUGH HIS RELATIONS WITH MIGUEL HAVE BEEN STRAINED, HIS STATEMENTS AND UOM REACTION SIGNIFY OPEN RUPTURE. HOWEVER, CALABRO IS NOT WITHOUT SUPPORT WITHIN THE UOM. REPORTEDLY, TWO UOM EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS RESIGNED OCTOBER 1 TO SIGNIFY THEIR DISAGREEMENT WITH UOM POSITION AND SUPPORT FOR CALABRO. IN SHORT, CALABRO'S ACT HAS SERVED TO HARDEN POSITIONS AND INTENSIFY SPLIT BETWEEN VARIOUS PERIONIST FACTIONS.

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